

HALIFAX

*RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.*



# Annual Report

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

*FOR THE YEAR 1894,*

BY

Meredith Young, M.B., C.M., (Univ. Edin.)

*Fellow of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of  
Health, &c.*

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Halifax:

WHITLEY & BOOTH, PRINTERS, ETC., CROWN STREET.

1895.



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# Halifax Rural District Council,

## 1894—95.

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### **Chairman :**

District Councillor D. U. SUTCLIFFE, J.P.

### **Vice=Chairman :**

District Councillor JOHN TAYLOR.

### **Members :**

District Councillor G. ABBOT (Upper Greetland).

„ G. J. ARMYTAGE (Hartshead).

„ J. BOOTH CARTER (Norwood  
Green and Coley).

„ J. RAMSDEN (Clifton).

„ L. W. SHOESMITH (Skircoat).

„ B. SUTCLIFFE (Clifton).

„ LEWIS WHITTAKER (Norland).

## INTRODUCTION.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Halifax Rural  
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour and pleasure of presenting you with my Annual Report on the health of your District during the year 1894.

The District boasts a death-rate which is lower than it has been for many years, and is also lower than that of England and Wales generally for 1894.

From the Report you will see that much good work has been done, and done thoroughly, almost every branch of Sanitary work receiving its due share.

You will find in places recommendations or suggestions made for the consideration of your Council, and these I trust will not be made in vain.

I have to thank many of your members for valuable assistance and support given in the days of the now past Rural Sanitary Authority.

I feel confident that an appeal to your newly-constituted Council for support in the carrying out of my work during the present year is unnecessary.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

MEREDITH YOUNG.

*Brighouse, April, 1895.*

# HALIFAX RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL,

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## Report of the Medical Officer of Health FOR THE YEAR 1894.

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**Population.**—At the 1881 Census the population of your united districts was 8,320, and at the 1891 Census 8,414; estimating by logarithms to the middle of 1894, I have calculated it to be 8,457. The populations of the different sub-districts are given in Table IV., from which you will see that in Fixby, Greetland and Norland the population has *probably* decreased, whilst in the other sub-districts it has *probably* increased. The net increase for the whole district since the Census of 1891 is probably about 43.

**Density of Population.**—Taking the average of the whole district, there were 554 persons to the square mile in 1891, or at the rate of  $1\frac{1}{6}$  acres per person (1.156 acres per person, to be accurate). The West Riding of Yorkshire, taken as a whole, had, in 1891, 891 persons per square mile, or 0.718 acres (3,484 square yards) per person. In Table IV. you will see the density (expressed in persons per square mile) of each sub-district.

**Births.**—During the year there have been 240 births, namely 119 of males and 121 of females, or at the rate of 28.3 per thousand of the estimated population. The birth-rates in the sub-districts show naturally considerable differences, the highest being in Norwood Green and Coley, where it was 32.7: Fixby comes next with a rate

of 31·3 ; and Clifton next with a rate of 30·3 ; Skircoat, Hartshead, Norland, and Greetland follow on with rates of 28·6, 27·6, 23·2, and 21·6 respectively. The rates for previous years will be seen in Table II.

The birth-rate in England and Wales generally for 1894 was 29·6, so that our own rate would appear very favourable.

Illegitimate births are not distinguished by the Registrars in their returns to me, so that I am unable to give them.

**Deaths.**—There have been 124 deaths registered from all causes during the year, namely 69 of males and 55 of females, or at the rate of 14·6 per thousand of the estimated population. This is lower than the average of the preceding five years, as a glance at Table II. will show, and is also lower than the rate for any individual year. It is also considerably lower than the England and Wales death-rate for 1894 (16·6) though that itself is lower than it has been for many years.

Comparing the various sub-districts in this respect (see Table V.) we find Norwood Green at the head of the list with the very low death-rate of 11·3 per thousand. In order of merit the other districts run as follows :—

Fixby	-	-	-	12·5.
Skircoat	-	-	-	13·2.
Norland	-	-	-	14·1.
Hartshead	-	-	-	14·3.
Clifton	-	-	-	16·9.
Greetland	-	-	-	21·6.

No correction has been necessary this year, as in previous years, for deaths of non-residents within the district, or



for deaths outside the district of persons belonging thereto.

### Classification of Deaths according to Age.

(a) *Infant Mortality.*—34 deaths have occurred at ages under one year. This is at the rate of 142 per thousand registered births, and implies that about one seventh of the children born have not survived the first year of life. This is undoubtedly a high figure, and shews too an increase on last year's record. In my Annual Report for 1893 I commented on this high infant mortality, and my observations made during 1894 have tended to confirm the opinions therein expressed. I ventured the opinion then that many infantile deaths were caused by improper management and feeding resulting from parental inexperience or neglect, and I suggested the printing of small handbills, giving simple instructions on these matters, the Authority to supply these to the Registrars, who would give one to each person registering a birth. I again suggest this measure, which could be carried out at a trifling cost, for the consideration of your Council, as I feel sure its adoption would result in a considerable reduction of infantile mortality, to say nothing of the probable immense saving of sickness and suffering.

(b) *At ages between 1 and 5 years.*—19 deaths have occurred at this time of life, making a total of 53 deaths of children under 5 years of age.

(c) 5 and under 15 years	} In each of these age-periods we have to record six deaths.
(d) 15 and under 25 years	

(e) *25 and under 65 years.*—The deaths in this age-period have numbered 34, but of course the fact that a period of 40 years is covered must be remembered.

(f) *65 and upwards.*—Here we have to record 25 deaths, a very good percentage of the total deaths, as it indicates that one-fifth of the deaths occurred in persons who had reached the age of 65 at least.

*Uncertified Deaths.*—These have numbered about 11 during the year. The number is uncertain, as some of the Registrars do not distinguish the uncertified deaths clearly.

*Inquests.*—There have been five Inquests held during the year, namely in the two cases of suicide mentioned below, in two cases of accidental death, and in one other uncertified death.

*Suicides.*—There have been two suicides during the same period, namely one from hanging and one from drowning.

**TABLE 1.**  
**Classification of Causes of Death.**

	Under 5 years.	Over 5 years.	All ages.
<b>CLASS I. ZYMOTIC DISEASES.</b>			
<i>Order 1.—Miasmatic Diseases.</i>			
Chickenpox ... ..	1	0	1
Diphtheria ... ..	1	1	2
Membranous Croup ... ..	4	0	4
Whooping Cough ... ..	5	0	5
Typhoid Fever ... ..	0	2	2
<b>CLASS IV. CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.</b>			
Rheumatic Fever ... ..	0	1	1
Cancer ... ..	0	8	8
Scrofulous Diseases ... ..	0	3	3
Phthisis ... ..	1	6	7
<b>CLASS V. DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES.</b>			
Premature Birth ... ..	3	0	3
Old age ... ..	0	10	10
<b>CLASS VI. LOCAL DISEASES.</b>			
Diseases of Nervous System ...	10	5	15
„ Circulatory System ...	1	8	9
„ Respiratory System ...	14	11	25
„ Digestive System ...	2	3	5
„ Urinary System ...	0	3	3
Diseases or Accidents of Childbirth	0	2	2
<b>CLASS VII. VIOLENCE.</b>			
Accidents ... ..	0	3	3
Suicide ... ..	0	2	2
<b>CLASS VIII. ILL-DEFINED AND NOT SPECIFIED CAUSES.</b>			
Debility, Atrophy, Inanition ...	6	0	6
All Others ... ..	5	2	7
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>124</b>

TABLE II.

Year.	Population.	Births.	Birth Rate.	England and Wales. — Birth Rate.	Deaths.	Death Rate.	England and Wales. — Death Rate.
1889 ...	9750	248	25.5	30.5	166	17.0	17.9
1890 ...	9838	256	26.0	29.7	157	15.9	19.2
1891 ...	9525	290	30.4	31.4	205	21.5	20.2
1892 ...	9626	265	27.5	30.5	170	17.6	19.0
1893 ...	8442	241	28.5	30.8	139	16.4	19.2
Average for above five years ...	...	...	27.5	...	...	17.7	...
1894 ...	8457	240	28.3	29.6	124	14.6	16.6

TABLE III.  
Deaths from all Causes at Subjoined Ages.

	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	TOTAL.	
							Under 5.	Over 5.
1st Quarter	6	3	1	...	6	7	9	14
2nd Quarter	4	4	2	2	8	7	8	19
3rd Quarter	11	5	1	1	8	3	15	13
4th Quarter	12	8	2	3	12	8	21	25
TOTAL	33	20	6	6	34	25	53	71

## Quarterly Births and Deaths in Sub-Districts.

Sub-Districts,	BIRTHS.								DEATHS.											
	1st Quarter.		2nd Quarter.		3rd Quarter.		4th Quarter.		Total..		1st Quarter.		2nd Quarter.		3rd Quarter.		4th Quarter.		Total..	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Clifton	5	9	10	11	7	11	8	9	30	40	3	3	3	3	9	2	10	6	25	14
Fixby	1	2	4	3	1	...	2	2	8	7	1	...	...	1	1	...	3	...	5	1
Greetland	0	2	1	...	...	4	1	...	2	6	...	...	1	2	1	1	3	...	5	3
Hartshead	3	2	1	1	3	5	6	8	13	16	1	2	...	2	3	1	2	4	6	9
Norland	4	5	2	1	8	4	6	3	20	13	3	1	2	2	4	3	1	4	10	10
Norwood Green and Coley	4	8	4	1	5	2	3	2	16	13	0	3	2	1	1	...	1	2	4	6
Skircoat	6	3	6	11	9	5	9	7	30	26	4	2	5	3	1	1	4	6	14	12
TOTALS	23	31	28	28	33	31	35	31	119	121	12	11	13	14	20	8	24	22	69	55

TABLE IV.

Sub-District.	Population. Census, 1881.	Population. Census, 1891.	Population Estimated to middle of 1894.	Population.		Rateable Value.
				Estimated Increase.	Estimated Decrease.	
Clifton ...	2182	2275	2305	30	...	£ 15068
Fixby ...	503	485	478	...	7	1967
Greetland ...	535	405	370	...	35	2613
Hartshead ...	842	991	1047	56	...	4649
Norland ...	1493	1437	1419	...	18	5983
Norwood Green and Coley	852	875	882	7	...	4256
Skirecoat ...	1913	1946	1956	10	...	8921
Totals for whole District	8320	8414	8457	43	...	43457

## Summary of Vital Statistics in Various Sub-Districts.

**Clifton.**—*Births* : 30 males and 40 females, or at the rate of 30·3 per thousand of the estimated population. *Deaths* : 25 males and 14 females, or at the rate of 16·9 per thousand. Clifton shows a higher infant mortality than the other sub-districts, and amongst the deaths are numbered one from membranous eroup (a disease very closely allied to diphtheria), and three from whooping cough. Six cases of scarlet fever, one of membranous eroup, one of typhoid fever and one of puerperal fever have been notified to me during the year in this district.

**Fixby.**—*Births* : 8 of males and 7 of females, or at rate of 31·3 per thousand. *Deaths* : 5 of males and 1 of a female, or at rate of 12·5 per thousand. The largest number of deaths in this part of the district has been at ages of 65 and upwards. One case of typhoid fever connected with bad drainage and an impure water supply was notified to me. These insanitary conditions have been remedied.

**Greetland.**—*Births* : 2 of males and 6 of females, or at the rate of 21·6 per thousand. *Deaths* : 5 of males and 3 of females, or at the rate of 21·6 per thousand. Three cases of scarlet fever have occurred in the district during the year—all of them probably imported from adjacent districts.

**Hartshead.**—*Births* : 13 of males and 16 of females, or at the rate of 27·6 per thousand. *Deaths* : 6 of males and 9 of females, or at the rate of 14·3 per thousand. Two deaths have been due to diphtheria and



one to membranous croup. Seven cases of scarlet fever, three of diphtheria, one of membranous croup, one of typhoid fever, and one of erysipelas have been brought to my notice during the year in this district.

**Norland.**—*Births*: 20 of males and 13 of females, or at the rate of 23·2 per thousand. *Deaths*: 10 of males and 10 of females, or at the rate of 14·1 per thousand. One death has been due to typhoid fever and one to rheumatic fever. Two cases of typhoid fever and one of erysipelas have been reported to me.

**Norwood Green and Coley.**—*Births*: 16 of males and 13 of females, or at the rate of 32·7 per thousand. *Deaths*: 4 of males and 6 of females, or at the low rate of 11·3 per thousand. One death was due to typhoid fever which was undoubtedly imported from Bradford. Two cases of scarlet fever also imported from the adjoining district were reported to me.

**Skircoat.**—*Births*: 30 of males and 26 of females, or at the rate of 28·6 per thousand. *Deaths*: 14 of males and 12 of females, or at the rate of 13·2 per thousand. Two deaths were certified as due to membranous croup and one to whooping cough. One case of erysipelas—not dependent on sanitary defects but constitutional in character—was reported to me from Copley.

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TABLE V.

Sub-Districts.	Population 1894 (middle).	Births.			Death Rate per 1000 of population	Deaths.			Death Rate per 1000 of population	Deaths from 7 chief Infectious Diseases.	Deaths from Res- piratory Diseases.	Deaths from Phthisis	Infant Deaths (under 1 year).
		M.	F.	Total.		M.	F.	Total.					
Clifton	2305	30	40	70	30·3	25	14	39	16·9	3	8	2	11
Fixby	478	8	7	15	31·3	5	1	6	12·5	...	2	...	2
Greetland	370	2	6	8	21·6	5	3	8	21·6	1	...	...	2
Hartshead	1047	13	16	29	27·6	6	9	15	14·3	2	2	2	7
Norland	1419	20	13	33	23·2	10	10	20	14·1	1	5	...	3
Norwood Green and Coley	882	16	13	29	32·7	4	6	10	11·3	1	1	1	2
Skircoat	1956	30	26	56	28·6	14	12	26	13·2	1	7	2	6
Total for com- bined Districts	8457	119	121	240	28·3	69	55	124	14·6	9	25	7	34

**Sanitary Work.**—At the close of 1893 the nuisances in hand amounted to 13 ; 201 other nuisances were brought to light during the year, making a total of 214 to be dealt with ; 177 of these have been abated, and at the end of 1894 there were 37 in course of abatement. No recourse to legal proceedings has been necessary, this being due in a large measure, I feel sure, to the fact that your Sanitary Inspector is a thoroughly practical man, and that property owners will lend a willing ear to a practical man where they would snap their fingers at a “theoretical” man.

In connection with the nuisances abated 14 house-drains have been disconnected during the year, and 14 covered privy-middens have been constructed. One case of overcrowding has been remedied.

In connection with one branch of the sanitary work—Smoke Abatement—I should like to say that several observations have been made by your Inspector, but no case has been found where the limit of ten minutes dense, or twenty minutes moderate, smoke within the hour has been exceeded.

I should suggest to your Council the advisability of reducing this limit by one half, or that action should be taken in any case where the emission of dense black smoke exceeded five minutes in the hour. It is quite possible, by careful stoking, to reduce it below this without the use of any smoke-consuming appliance, and therefore I do not consider it an unreasonable limit.

**Canal Boats.**—The length of canal in your district is  $3\frac{3}{4}$  miles, distributed as follows :— $1\frac{3}{4}$  mile in Skircoat and Norland ;  $\frac{5}{8}$  mile in Clifton ;  $1\frac{3}{8}$  mile in Hartshead.

During the year eleven canal boats have been inspected by your Sanitary Inspector and found in a fairly satisfactory state. Contraventions of the Acts were found on three boats, but no legal proceedings had to be resorted to in order to get these remedied. No cases of infectious disease were discovered on any boat.

**Slaughterhouses.**—Four of these places have been inspected during the year and have been found somewhat unsatisfactory. That belonging to the Co-operative Society, situated in Clifton, was found to be in an excellent sanitary condition with the exception of an accumulation of horns, which needed more frequent removal, and some minor drainage defect in the bakehouse; the authorities, however, immediately attended to these matters.

The drainage of the other slaughterhouses, which were situated in Hartshead, was far from satisfactory, and the limewashing was not regularly attended to; the sink waste-water from a house at the back was conducted along a channel in the floor of one slaughterhouse, and beef was allowed to hang for several days above the decomposing sediment from this sewage. And this defect was discovered on visiting this house at the back of the slaughterhouse, in connection with an outbreak of diphtheria which had occurred there!

**Bakehouses.**—Two bakehouses have been unearthed during the year, and both were found to be well-kept, but, built against the wall of one of them, two privies and a wet and uncovered ashpit were discovered. The owner was given the choice of removing the bakehouse or the privies and ashpits, and chose the former.

**Cowsheds.**—Twenty eight cowsheds, some of them with milk stores adjoining, were inspected, and, on the whole, were found satisfactory. The drainage of most of them was rural in character ; the air-space was limited ; the limewashing done on an average once a year ; the water supply generally good ; manure disposal was purely an agricultural or economical question, from which sanitary considerations were disdainfully excluded. All this notwithstanding those who had charge of the cowsheds we visited were fully alive to the health and well-being of their cattle, and it only needed a few hints, carefully chosen and adapted, to ensure a good deal of improvement being carried out.

**Unsound Food.**—On December 26th I was summoned to inspect a carcase of meat deposited in a private slaughterhouse at Hartshead, and I pronounced it unwholesome and unfit for the food of man, and had it seized and carried away in order to be dealt with by a Justice of the Peace, who gave an order for its destruction. The proprietor of the slaughterhouse said that he had had the carcase offered for sale to him when at the Huddersfield Market, but had refused to buy it ; however, on coming home the same evening he found it hung up in his slaughterhouse. The police had obtained the name of the man who had offered it for sale, and the name of the man who had brought it over from Fixby, where it had died—or been killed, to Hartshead ; I at once visited those persons, but could get no definite information from them.

Mr. Bell, a Veterinary Surgeon, who inspected the carcase early on the following morning confirmed my opinion, and suggested that it had died from parturient apoplexy.

The matter was duly reported to your Council, and your Clerk advised that as it was a penal case and, therefore, had to be proved up to the hilt, proceedings should not be taken, so many obvious courses being open to an unscrupulous defendant. Finally your Council gave the person on whose premises the carcase was found the alternative of being summoned or paying all the expenses in connection with the case. He at once paid the expenses.

**Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.**—Your Authority has carried out a large amount of work, comparatively speaking, in this direction during the past year, as the present Summary will indicate :—

Clifton—200 yards of 12 in. Sewer laid.

Hartshead—187 yards of 12 in. Sewer laid.

Do. 100 yards of 9 in. Sewer laid and Sewage Tanks constructed.

Most of the above drainage was carried out after the visit of a Deputation of the Halifax Rural Sanitary Authority in the Summer, after a Report had been presented by myself and the Sanitary Inspector on the drainage of the district.

I could find no satisfactory cause for several cases of diphtheria and typhoid fever which occurred in Hartshead, and on going thoroughly into the drainage of the whole of that part of the village, it became apparent that a radical alteration was needed. No time was lost, I am happy to say, after a Deputation had visited this and other places, in carrying out a proper system of drainage.



Norland was also visited by a Deputation on a similar errand, but, of course, anything like a complete system of drainage was found to be out of the question. Several tanks were ordered to be constructed and arrangements made for these being regularly emptied and kept to the satisfaction of the Authority.

The drainage of Scarr Head, Norland, which I commented upon in my last Annual Report, is still in *statu quo*, as it was found that the Sowerby Bridge Local Board had no sewer to which we could have connected by agreement.

The Surveyor to the Sowerby Bridge Local Board however gave us to understand that a sewer into which the property at Scarr Head might be drained would probably be constructed shortly ; this would decidedly be the best way of dealing with it.

Failing this, however, your Council should consider the advisability of constructing a small settling tank and filter beds of a similar kind to those used for part of the sewage of Norwood Green, substituting "Polarite" or some such material for coke. There is certainly considerable risk in leaving the drainage as it is now.

The sewage tanks at Norwood Green are still in the same state as they were when I reported on them in 1893. Though the effluent as a rule is clear and innocuous, it cannot be denied that the efficiency of the filter-beds would be much increased by the construction of branch carriers to distribute the sewage over the whole of the filter-beds equally. It would be well also to have a layer of "Polarite" or some kindred material, some five or six inches in depth, bedded with four or five inches

of sand, and also covered with six or eight inches of the same material on the lower filter-bed to thoroughly purify and oxidize the partially filtered sewage before it passed into the stream.

**Scavenging.**—The privy-middens, &c., are cleansed by the tenants ; this, of course, means that their contents accumulate until they are wanted on the land, or until a reasonable offer can be obtained for them. The arrangement is very unsatisfactory, and in Clifton especially is in urgent need of alteration. In this part of the district it was, at one time during the year, resolved to contract for the emptying of privy-middens, and tenders were advertised for ; the cost, however, turned out to be much greater than anticipated, and the matter was dropped. This is to be regretted, for cost should be a secondary consideration in a matter of this kind, which so directly affects the public health. I would earnestly suggest that a trial be made of the system, not only in Clifton but in Skircoat—the two most densely populated parts of your district—for I do not think the system has ever been abandoned after once being adopted, and I am certain from the numerous complaints which have reached me through your Inspector that the ratepayers would support the contract system after once having experienced its benefits.

**(A)**  
**TABLE OF DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1894, IN THE HALIFAX RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT,**  
**CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES,**

MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES.										MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.										
NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purposes of these Statistics: Public Institutions being shown as separate Localities. (Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	Fever.										
										Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Whooping Cough.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All Other Diseases.	Total.
CLIFTON (H)	..	39	11	9	...	1	10	8	{ Under 5 5 upwards	...	1	...	3	...	1	3	...	...	12	20
FIXBY	...	6	2	...	...	...	4	...	{ Under 5 5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	9	19
GREETLAND	...	8	2	...	...	3	1	2	{ Under 5 5 upwards	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	4
HARTSHEAD	...	15	7	2	1	...	5	...	{ Under 5 5 upwards	1	1	...	...	...	2	2	...	2	4	6
NORLAND	...	20	3	3	4	1	4	5	{ Under 5 5 upwards	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	4	6
NORWOOD GREEN } AND COLEY }	10	2	1	1	...	1	4	2	{ Under 5 5 upwards	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	11	14
SKIRCOAT	...	26	6	5	1	...	6	8	{ Under 5 5 upwards	...	2	...	1	...	2	5	2	...	3	7
TOTALS	...124	33	20	6	6	6	34	25	{ Under 5 5 upwards	1	4	...	5	1	6	14	7	3	25	53
									{ Under 5 5 upwards	1	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	40	71



(B) TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, DURING THE YEAR 1894, IN THE RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT OF THE HALIFAX UNION: CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics ; Public Institutions being shewn as separate localities.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.  (d.)	Aged under 5 or over 5.  (e.)	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.						
	Census 1891.  (b.)	Estimated to middle of 1894.  (c.)			Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Group.	FEVERS.		Erysipelas.	Total.
								Enteric or Typhoid.	Puerperal.		
CLIFTON (H) ...	2275	2305	70	{ Under 5 { 5 upwards	1	...	1	0	0	...	2
FINBY ...	485	478	15	{ Under 5 { 5 upwards	...	...	0	1	1	...	7
GREETLAND ...	405	370	8	{ Under 5 { 5 upwards	...	...	...	1	...	...	0
HARTSHEAD ...	991	1047	29	{ Under 5 { 5 upwards	1	...	1	0	...	...	1
NORLAND ...	1437	1419	33	{ Under 5 { 5 upwards	2	...	0	1	...	...	2
NORWOOD GREEN AND } COLEY	875	882	29	{ Under 5 { 5 upwards	...	...	...	2	...	...	7
	1946	1956	56	{ Under 5 { 5 upwards	...	...	...	1	...	...	6
	SKIRCOAT ...				{ Under 5 { 5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	2
Totals for combined District ...	8414	8457	240	{ Under 5 { 5 upwards	7	1	2	0	0	0	10
					11	2	0	6	1	3	23

Notification of Infectious Diseases has been compulsory in the District since January, 1890.

The Isolation Hospital used by the Sick of the District is the Brighthouse District Joint Hospital, situate in Clifton (marked H) and used for Small-pox only.

## TABLE C 1894.

### Halifax Rural Sanitary District.

#### Medical Officer of Health.

MEREDITH YOUNG, M.B., C.M.

Term of Appointment, one year. Present Salary, £60.

Special Reports presented during 1894? None.

#### Sanitary Inspector.

ARTHUR ROWE. Salary, £72.

Rateable Value (1894) for Poor Rate and General District Rate? £13457

General District Rate 1894-5? Varied in different Districts.

#### Water Supply.

Any extension or change during 1894? No.

Average daily consumption per head? Varied in different Districts.

Action on Lead? None.

#### Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Extension or Improvements during 1894?

At Clifton, 200 yards of 12 ins. Sewer laid.

At Hartshead, 187 yards of 12 ins. „

„ 100 „ 9 ins. „ and Sewage Tank.

*See text of Report.*

#### Scavenging.

Are the privy middens, &c., cleansed by sanitary staff, by contractors, or by tenants? By tenants.

Frequency? Very irregularly. Annual Cost? *See text of Report.*

Is the present arrangement satisfactory? No.

#### Bye-Laws, Regulations, and Adoptive Acts.

Infectious Disease Notification Act, 1889? January, 1890. „

Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890? Not adopted.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. Not adopted.

Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders? 1891

Building Bye-Laws? None.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	Number inspected.	General Condition.	Legal Proceedings (if any).
Common Lodging- houses ... ..	...	...	None.
Canal Boats ...	11	Fairly satisfactory ...	Contraventions on 3 Boats
Slaughterhouses ...	4	Generally unsatisfactory	
Bakehouses ...	2	1 good, 1 unsuitable ...	
Dairies ..	...	...	
Cowsheds ...	28	Fairly satisfactory ...	
Milkshops ...	...	...	
Offensive Trades ..	1	Unsatisfactory—altera- tions in hand ...	None.
(Please specify nature).	Carrier's shop		

Schemes before L. G. B. }  
 L. G. B. Enquiries ... } None.  
 L. G. B. Inspections ... }

### Death Returns.

(a) Number of each sex :—Male, 119 : Female, 62.

(b) Number Illegitimate. No returns obtained.

### Deaths.

(a) Number of each sex :—Male 69 : Female, 55.

### Births.

What correction (if any) is made for non-residents dying within the District? None necessary.

Are any Returns obtained of deaths of residents occurring in public institutions, (Workhouses, Hospitals, &c.,) outside the District?  
 Yes. No correction necessary.

### Hospital for Infectious Diseases.

Number of Beds? 48. Charges to Patients? Nil.

Construction (Brick, Stone, Wood, Iron, Altered House or Cottage, &c., &c.)? Corrugated Iron and Wood.

Additions or Alterations during 1894? None.

What Diseases are admitted? Small-pox only.

How many different diseases at one time? One.

### Disinfection.

Apparatus (Steam? Hot Air?) Steam.

Work done in 1894? Few Beddings disinfected.

**Sanitary - Work.**

Total Number of Nuisances in hand at close of 1893 ? 13.

At close of 1894 ? 37.

Reported during 1894 ? 201. Abated during 1894 ? 177.

Total No. of Summonses or other legal proceedings ? None.

House Drainage :—Number of Sinks disconnected during 1894 ? 14.

**Closets.**

Number constructed during 1894 ? 14 Privy Middens.

**Action taken in regard to the following matters.**

Houses unfit for habitation ? One reported (remedied, or in course of.)

Overcrowding ? One remedied.

Seizure of Unsound Food ? One. Prosecutions ? None.

Samples taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts ? None.

Prosecutions ? None.

River Pollution ? None.

Smoke Abatement ? Observations made but no infringement met with.

Workshops ? None.

# CANAL BOATS ACTS.

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## Copy of Report of Inspector, 1894.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District  
Council of the Halifax Union.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg respectfully to submit my Annual Report of Inspections made by me of Canal Boats passing through the District of your Authority for the year ending December 31st, 1894.

I have, with one exception, found the boats in good condition, clean and well kept.

The sleeping accommodation I have in every case found satisfactory, and in no case have I found children on board.

I beg to add the following details of my Inspections :

1. The number of boats inspected is 11, as against 12 in 1893.
2. Contraventions of the Act and Regulations were found to exist on three of them and were as follows :—

Absence of Certificates	...	...	2
Absence of Water Vessels	...	...	2
Repairs and Painting required	...	...	1
Not Properly Marked	...	...	1

3. Notices of Contraventions have been sent to the respective owners in two cases and have been complied with. The owner of the third boat having promised to re-paint and repair his vessel I did not forward him a notice.
4. No boats have been detained for cleansing or disinfection.
5. There has been no case of illness of any description met with.

I may add that the number of boats inspected would have been larger if there was a basin or stopping place in your district. On three occasions I have journeyed to North Dean for the purpose of inspecting boats passing through the Skircoat portion of your district and have been unable to meet with a single boat.

I have invariably found the persons in charge of the respective boats courteous and obliging and ready to offer every assistance for the proper inspection of their boats.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR ROWE,

*Canal Boat Inspector.*



CHART shewing Deaths from Principal Diseases or Groups of Diseases  
in Halifax Rural Sanitary District during the year 1894.



